

Article of the Month
February, 2023

The Wisdom of their Wise Men Shall Perish

These words are from Isaiah 29:14. At whom they are specifically aimed is not quite certain. But the application of these words is, by context, about our day; and the truth of the prediction is manifest in today's affairs. The problems of today -- whether in politics, religion, economics, society, international affairs, or you-name-it -- clearly find no man able to give workable answers. Indeed, it is more and more plain that this condition of lack of answers is a major irritant -- not only to leaders, but to whole populations. The whole world is on the proverbial "short fuse" -- resulting in irrational behavior and legitimate worry. But the context of Isaiah's words demonstrate clearly that the Lord, Himself, is using this condition to do something "marvelous."

It might seem irrational to say that the troubles of our day are blessings! But that is exactly what their result will be. Indeed, Psalm 76:10 (clearest in the King James Version) makes it plain that man's madness will ultimately praise God -- and that whatever man does that won't praise God, God will stop! With a promise like that, we can have at least some comfort in the turmoil of our day.

We have no desire in this article to rehearse the world's troubles. Everyone is sufficiently aware of them! What we DO want to do is to encourage the reader that this miserable condition of things is not a bad sign, but a good one. It IS bad, of course, for the old way of doing things. But by now, we should realize that the old ways of doing things are not worthy of preservation. Revelation 20:1-3 demonstrates that the Lord doesn't want to preserve Satan's old order either, but to bind it, and then to totally incapacitate it for the bigger part of the Millennial Age so that mankind can find relief from the current contradictory ways of life -- deceptions from every side.

It was God's wisdom from mankind's beginning to allow man to "go his own way" -- to learn through experience what it is like when we ignore the very Being who created us. And for over 6000 years, mankind has, indeed, done anything and everything he wanted -- all the time learning that it doesn't work! But it was never God's intent to let this condition go on forever.

God has used the time for several purposes. Among these is to allow earth's historical and current population to reach the number of people which will be ideal -- the number of people which the earth (when properly treated) will support and sustain in abundant comfort.

The time has also been used to develop Israel as the central point from which God's new government will function. We don't mean to suggest that Israel, as we now know it, has the wisdom or ability to serve as the solution for earth's woes! But it is God's intention

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(because of His promise to Abraham) to use the natural descendants of Abraham (once instructed and trained) to be His earthly administrators of the blessings which will flow. It is no accident that this once-dispersed nation again occupies the land which was promised to Abraham. It is no accident that Israel, though out-numbered and "disadvantaged" in so many ways, simply cannot lose a battle since its inception!

But a third thing has been also going on -- genuinely unnoticed, but of ultimate importance for the whole race of mankind. While God has provided in Jesus a savior for the world, He has also determined to have a corp of "joint saviors" -- a group from among the human race who have been called out to be the instruments of blessings for "all the families of the earth." (Obadiah 21) This group of people, unlike the remainder of mankind, will experience a change of nature. They will become spirit beings of the highest order -- like Jesus, himself. (I John 3:2) They will join Jesus in the power of judging men and angels. (I Corinthians 6:2, 3).

The work of selecting this group (which is known as Jesus' "church" -- meaning those who are "called out") -- has been going on since Jesus' first advent. Its selection has been basically secret. The general "church world" we are used to seeing is NOT representative of the true Church. "Christendom" is fraudulent to a great degree -- only helping to hide what God is really doing.

Jesus made reference to this counterfeit "Christian" movement in his Parable of the Wheat & Tares in Matthew 13:24-30 and 36-43. Jesus predicted that those who would claim to be his followers would, in large part, be "tares" or fakes. But, the true "wheat" (the genuine disciples) will, in the end, prevail to be the blessers of all of mankind. The work of selecting this small group who will reign with Christ during the restorative Millennial Age is nearly complete. (Revelation 14:1; 20:6; Acts 3:19-21)

Once this work of selected the blessers for mankind has been accomplished, God will step in to bring in the era of peace, plenty, and restoration to eternal life for the entire human race. (Psalm 46:8-10) THEN will come to pass the answer to the oft-repeated prayer, "Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth." (Matthew 6:10) THEN, as the prophet Haggai (2:7) wrote: "I will shake all the nations (THAT is going on now!)...and the desire of all nations shall come." This is what the Apostle Paul referred to when, in Romans 8:19 and 22, he says that, "The anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly (in ignorance) for the revealing of the sons of God...For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers in pain...until now." The waiting is almost over!

WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE US?

The result is this: The world IS falling apart. It has no answers to its own problems -- even though many seem to have extremist positions which they THINK will work! But those positions will only hasten the downfall of Satan's empire! So, in essence, the current troubles are good news! They are the prelude to the glories to come.

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Hold on a little longer! We are on the doorstep of all the good we could ever dream of!

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